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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/980,660	03/11/2002	Hideyuki Narita	09798423-0008	6623	
26263	7590 01/09/2006		EXAM	EXAMINER	
SONNENSC	CHEIN NATH & ROSEN	NGUYEN, O	NGUYEN, QUYNH H		
P.O. BOX 061 WACKER DE	1080 RIVE STATION, SEARS T	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
	L 60606-1080	2642			
			DATE MAILED: 01/09/2006	6	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary		Applic	ation No.	Applicant(s)	Applicant(s)	
		09/980	0,660	NARITA ET AL.		
		Exami	ner	Art Unit		
		Quynh	H. Nguyen	2642		
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communi r Reply	cation appears on	the cover sheet v	vith the correspondence a	ddress	
WHIC - Exter after - If NO - Failu Any r	DRTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR HEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MASSIANS OF THE MASSIAN	AILING DATE OF of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no unication. tutory period will apply an will, by statute, cause the	THIS COMMUN be event, however, may a d will expire SIX (6) MO application to become A	ICATION. The reply be timely filed ENTHS from the mailing date of this of the ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).		
Status						
2a)□	Responsive to communication(s) filed. This action is FINAL . Since this application is in condition to closed in accordance with the practice.	b)⊠ This action i for allowance exce	s non-final. ept for formal ma	•	e merits is	
Dispositi	on of Claims					
5)□ 6)⊠ 7)□	Claim(s) <u>1-69</u> is/are pending in the a 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/ar Claim(s) is/are allowed. Claim(s) <u>1-69</u> is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restrict	e withdrawn from				
Applicati	on Papers					
10)	The specification is objected to by the The drawing(s) filed on is/are: Applicant may not request that any object Replacement drawing sheet(s) including The oath or declaration is objected to	a) accepted or tion to the drawing(the correction is rec	s) be held in abeya uired if the drawin	ance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). g(s) is objected to. See 37 C	• •	
Priority u	nder 35 U.S.C. § 119					
a)[Acknowledgment is made of a claim f All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority of 2. Certified copies of the priority of 3. Copies of the certified copies of application from the Internation ee the attached detailed Office action	documents have be documents have b of the priority document al Bureau (PCT F	neen received. neen received in nments have bee Rule 17.2(a)).	Application No n received in this Nationa	l Stage	
Attachment	(s) e of References Cited (PTO-892)		4) 🔲 Interview	Summary (PTO-413)		
2) 🔲 Notice 3) 🔯 Inforn	e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (Pination Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or Final Date		Paper No	(s)/Mail Date Informal Patent Application (PT	O-152)	

Art Unit: 2642

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 5 recites "comprising" should be "comprising:", and line 9 recites "communication" should be "communication:". Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 9, 10, 16-18, 25, 43, 53-54, and 68-69 have the same defect.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 3. Claims 1-6, 8-13, 15--27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maekawa (U.S. Patent 5,663,953).

As to claims 1, 13, and 18, Maekawa teaches a communication control apparatus for controlling multipoint communication conducted using a plurality of communication apparatuses connected via a communication circuit (col. 2, lines 9-11) comprising: a request processing means for inquiring to a designated communication apparatus whether it intends to attend multipoint communication when receiving information designating that communication apparatus and a request seeking the attendance of that designated communication apparatus in the multipoint communication (col. 2, lines 11-

Art Unit: 2642

14; col. 4, lines 24-28); and a communication control means for controlling the multipoint communication among the plurality of communication apparatuses including the designated communication apparatus when receiving an answer from the designated communication apparatus to the effect of attending the multipoint communication (col. 2, lines 14-19; col. 4, lines 29-33).

As to claims 2 and 19, Maekawa teaches the request processing means notifies the communication apparatus issuing the request that it has received an answer from the designated communication apparatus to the effect of refusing to attend the multipoint communication when receiving the same (col. 2, lines 1-6; col. 5, lines 18-25).

As to claims 3-4, and 20-21, Maekawa teaches issuing an answer to the effect of refusing to attend the multipoint communication of the conversation at a predetermined timing (Fig. 2, S3, S4 & S8).

As to claims 5 and 22, Maekawa teaches the requesting processing means sends information about at least one of the attendants in the multipoint communication (Fig. 2, S2 & S6).

As to claims 6 and 23, Maekawa teaches the requesting processing means sends information necessary for the designated communication apparatus to attend the multipoint communication to the designated communication apparatus (Fig. 2, S2 & S6).

As to claims 8 and 24, Maekawa teaches the communication control means controls data transmitted from the plurality of communication apparatuses engaged in the multipoint communication to be received by other communication apparatuses other than the communication apparatuses transmitting the data (col. 4, lines 50-52).

Art Unit: 2642

Claims 9 and 25 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Maekawa teaches disconnecting from the multipoint communication in response to the inquiry from the request processing (col. 6, lines 11-50).

As to claim 12, Maekawa teaches carrying out a charge processing on users of the communication apparatus for the service related to the multipoint communication (col. 1, lines 51-55; col. 2, lines 20-24).

As to claim 15, Maekawa teaches the command to attend the multipoint communication is input (Fig. 2, S3 & S4; col. 5, lines 18-25).

As to claim 16, Maekawa teaches a display means for display based on image information sent from the communication control apparatus (Fig. 1, display unit 8; Fig. 2, S9; Fig. 3, S12).

As to claim 17, Maekawa teaches a speech output means for speech output based on speech information transmitted from the communication control apparatus (Fig. 1, microphone 2 & speaker 3).

Claim 26 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1.

Furthermore, Maekawa teaches a medium for providing a program describing a routine for controlling multipoint communication (col. 3, line 61 through col. 4, line 3).

Claim 27 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 2 and 26.

Art Unit: 2642

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Page 5

- 4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 5. Claims 7, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maekawa (U.S. Patent 5,663,953) in view of Dinwoodie (U.S. Patent 6,415,269).

As to claims 7 and 14, Maekawa does not teach the information necessary for attendance in the multipoint communication is information identifying the multipoint communication and a password.

Dinwoodie teaches the information necessary for attendance in the multipoint communication is information identifying the multipoint communication and a password (Fig. 2, elements 42, 44 & 48; col. 4, lines 7-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teachings of Dinwwodie into the teachings of Maekawa for authentication purposes.

6. Claims 28-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maekawa (U.S. Patent 5,663,953) in view of Kenichi (JP 11272577).

Claims 28 and 43 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. However, Maekawa does not teach a keyword input means for

Art Unit: 2642

inputting a keyword, a keyword extracting means for extracting the keyword from the received data.

Kenichi teaches a keyword input means for inputting a keyword, a keyword extracting means for extracting the keyword from the received data (see abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teachings of Kenichi into the teachings of Maekawa for the purpose of enabling a user to acquire a desired speech and to participate in a chat.

Claims 29-42 and 44-57 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 28.

Claim 58 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 28. Furthermore, Kenichi teaches a medium providing a program for making a computer execute (see abstract).

Claims 59-69 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 44-54, respectively.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Katz (U.S. Patent 5,091,933) teaches multiple party telephone control system.

Hogan et al. (U.S. Patent 5,483,587) teaches system and method for call conferencing.

Application/Control Number: 09/980,660 Page 7

Art Unit: 2642

4:45 P.M.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:15 A.M. to

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Quynh H. Nguyen Patent Examiner Art Unit 2642

Duynh H. Nguyen